Confidential.

1188(2)

My dear Mr. Barton,

Please refer to Mr. Cater's confidential and demi-official letter No. C. 2655/578 of the 2nd July 1923 regarding the discussions in the Representative Assembly on the subject of the Assigned Tract Revenue. The report in the "Hindu" is not quite accurate. I enclose a copy of the official report of the discussions based on shorthand notes taken at the time. As can be seen from the report there was nothing objectionable in the tone or in the substance of the representations.

I may say that the subjects excluded from the jurisdiction of the Mysore Legislative Council are excluded from the scope of the Representative Assembly only in so far as the right of interpellation is concerned. There has been no restriction as to the scope of the representa/ tions that may be brought up by the Assembly, and it stands to reason that matters of such vital interest and importance to the people -- cannot be treated as wholly outside the purview of the Assembly. Nor is it to be expected that the members of the Assembly -- who are all non-officials --, will always refrain from what may appear as implied censure on the Imperial Government if the policy or actions of the latter are felt to be against the rights or interests of the State and its people. This happens every day in the Provincial Legislative Councils as well as in the Indian Legislative Assembly , and I do not suppose the Government of India would desire

that the freedom of speech of members of Popular Assemblies in the State should be curtailed.

Yours sincerely,

(Dewan)